REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION Application Serial No. 09/904,102 Attorney Docket No. 02734.0482-05000

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application. Please add claims 118-119.

Claims 1-111 (canceled).

Claim 142 (previously presented): A creping adhesive composition comprising polyvinyl alcohol – vinyl amine copolymer of the following structure:

$$\begin{array}{c|c} & & & \\$$

wherein m and n have values of 1 to 99 and 99 to 1 respectively and further comprising a sufficient amount of a crosslinking agent for crosslinking the copolymer to a fibrous web at a creping process drying surface, said agent being selected from zirconium compounds wherein the zirconium has a valence of +4, wherein the creping adhesive composition exhibits a peel force of at least about 300 grams per 12 inches of fibrous web.

Claim 113 (previously presented): The creping adhesive of claim 112 wherein the zirconium compound is selected from the group consisting of ammonium zirconium carbonate, zirconium acetylacetonate, zirconium acetate, zirconium carbonate, zirconium sulfate, zirconium phosphate, potassium zirconium carbonate, zirconium sodium phosphate and sodium zirconium tartrate.

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Claim 114 (previously presented): The creping adhesive of claim 112 wherein the zirconium compound is ammonium zirconium carbonate.

Claim 115 (previously presented): The creping adhesive of claim 112 wherein m and n have values of 1 to 99 and 2 to 20 respectively.

Claim 116 (previously presented): The creping adhesive of claim 115 wherein the zirconium compound is selected from the group consisting of ammonium zirconium carbonate, zirconium acetylacetonate, zirconium acetate, zirconium carbonate, zirconium sulfate, zirconium phosphate, potassium zirconium carbonate, zirconium sodium phosphate, and sodium zirconium tartrate.

Claim 117 (previously presented): The creping adhesive of claim 115 wherein the zirconium compound is ammonium zirconium carbonate.

Claim 118 (new): The creping adhesive of claim 112 wherein the zirconium compound is potassium zirconium carbonate.

Claim 149 (new): The creping adhesive of claim 145 wherein the zirconium compound is potassium zirconium carbonate.

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